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12-19-03
OR

PATENT
Docket No. 325772023100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Takehisa NAKAO

Serial No.: 09/801,805

Filing Date: March 9, 2001

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Examiner: Wenpeng Chen

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 5396

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT **RECEIVED**

DEC 16 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 140
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Action mailed November 18, 2003, applicants elect to prosecute species 1 *without traverse*. Claims 1-7 and 11-13 read on the elected species.

Early action allowing claims 1-7 and 11-13 is solicited. Since generic claim 1 is allowable, claims 8-10 should be rejoined and allowed as well.

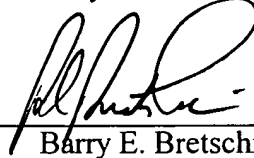
In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to

Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Docket No. 325772023100.

Dated: December 15, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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